

**Abstract**

A method is disclosed for gravel packing a hole in a subterranean formation including the step of pumping into the hole a gravel pack composition comprising gravel and a carrier fluid comprising a brine-in-oil emulsion, said emulsion being stabilized by an emulsifier based on at least one sorbitan fatty acid ester presenting a shoulder peak before the peak depicted to be the monomer peak when analyzed by gel permeation chromatography . The emulsifiers that exhibit the shoulder exhibit good stability without causing formation damage.